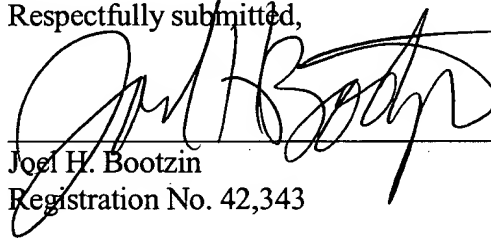


REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's Election/Restriction requirement, the Applicants elect Group A, Claims 80-127, which require a package preloaded with fasteners that can be transferred in a group or individually, for prosecution in this application.

No fee is believed due in connection with the filing of this Amendment and Response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 18-2284 of Piper Rudnick LLP, duplicate copy attached.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel H. Bootzin", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Joel H. Bootzin
Registration No. 42,343

PIPER RUDNICK LLP
Suite 1800
203 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611-1293
Telephone: (312) 368-7072

October 28, 2004